



THE WINGED SHADOW : The shadow of a Blackburn Shark floatplane (Siddeley Tiger VI) flits symbolically over the bows of H.M.S. Nelson. This picture was taken from another F.A.A. machine as the *Nelson* was steaming into Weymouth Bay with the rest of the Home Fleet in readiness for the King's visit to the Fleet last Monday.

The French Air Arm

WE in Great Britain cannot be indifferent to the fighting strength of France, for it is axiomatic that Britain will never again, so far as can be seen, be involved in a European war unless France is her ally. The serious set-back which the French air arm received when the aircraft industry in that country was nationalised was a matter of much concern to all Britons.

It is therefore very gratifying to learn that under the new Air Minister, M. La Chambre, *l'armée de l'air* has recently been making good progress with its re-equipment. A semi-official statement issued in Paris says that serial deliveries of the first up-to-date machines has now begun,

and that there is every reason to believe that the expected production under the new plant will be realised.

King George and Queen Elizabeth will be visiting France next week, and the French Government and people are making the most splendid preparations to give them a welcome worthy of their rank and position and also of the warm feelings which must exist between the peoples of France and Britain. Not the least gratifying part of the military pageant which our King and Queen will witness will be a fly-past by a French squadron of fighters equipped with the new machines capable of 300 m.p.h. The more high-performance aircraft the French Army can muster, the better pleased are we, and the greater the chance that peace will be preserved.